

## WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. An electrophotosensitive material comprising a supporting substrate, an intermediate layer containing a thermosetting resin formed on the supporting substrate, and a photosensitive layer formed on the intermediate layer,

wherein a contact angle of the surface of the intermediate layer is not less than a value ( $A^\circ$ ) represented by the formula:  $A^\circ = B^\circ - 2^\circ$  in which  $B^\circ$  is a contact angle corresponding to an intersection of a first approximation linear line and a second approximate linear line in a correlation curve between a residual potential of the photosensitive material comprising the predetermined photosensitive layer formed on the intermediate layer containing the thermosetting resin and a contact angle of the intermediate layer containing the thermosetting resin;

wherein the first approximate linear line denotes an approximate linear line of the portion where the residual potential decreases proportionally with an increase in contact angle in the correlation curve, while the second approximate linear line denotes an approximate linear line of the portion where a change in residual potential with an increase in contact angle nearly disappears.

2. The electrophotosensitive material according to claim 1, wherein the correlation curve is derived from values as measured under plural heat treatment conditions for curing

the thermosetting resin when the intermediate layer is formed.

3. The electrophotosensitive material according to claim 1, wherein the contact angle is within a range from the value corresponding to the intersection plus  $1^{\circ}$  to the value corresponding to the intersection plus  $7^{\circ}$ .

4. The electrophotosensitive material according to claim 1, wherein the intermediate layer contains a pigment.

5. A method of producing an electrophotosensitive material, which comprises forming an intermediate layer containing a thermosetting resin on a supporting substrate, measuring a contact angle of the surface of the intermediate layer, and forming a photosensitive layer on the intermediate layer when the contact angle is within a predetermined range.

6. The method of producing an electrophotosensitive material according to claim 5, wherein the contact angle within the predetermined range is not less than a value  $A^{\circ}$  represented by the formula:  $A^{\circ} = B^{\circ} - 2^{\circ}$  in which  $B^{\circ}$  is a contact angle corresponding to an intersection of a first approximation linear line and a second approximate linear line in a correlation curve between a residual potential of the photosensitive material comprising the predetermined photosensitive layer formed on the intermediate layer containing the thermosetting resin and a contact angle of the intermediate layer containing the thermosetting resin;

wherein the first approximate linear line denotes an approximate linear line of the portion where the residual potential decreases proportionally with an increase in contact angle in the correlation curve, while the second approximate linear line denotes an approximate linear line of the portion where a change in residual potential with an increase in contact angle nearly disappears.

7. A method of producing an electrophotosensitive material, which comprises forming an intermediate layer containing a thermosetting resin on a supporting substrate, carrying out a heat treatment so that a contact angle is set within a predetermined range, and forming a photosensitive layer on the intermediate layer.

8. The method of producing an electrophotosensitive material according to claim 7, wherein the contact angle within the predetermined range is not less than a value ( $A^\circ$ ) represented by the formula:  $A^\circ = B^\circ - 2^\circ$  in which  $B^\circ$  is a contact angle corresponding to an intersection of a first approximation linear line and a second approximate linear line in a correlation curve between a residual potential of the photosensitive material comprising the predetermined photosensitive layer formed on the intermediate layer containing the thermosetting resin and a contact angle of the intermediate layer containing the thermosetting resin;

wherein the first approximate linear line denotes an

approximate linear line of the portion where the residual potential decreases proportionally with an increase in contact angle in the correlation curve, while the second approximate linear line denotes an approximate linear line of the portion where a change in residual potential with an increase in contact angle nearly disappears.